Will for the Villages of Rajasthan

1621. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:
DR. ABRAR AHMED:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any plans to connect all villages in Rajasthan with Wirless in Local Loop (WLL) service;

(b) if so, the villages that would be connected under the project, in case they do not have regular telecom network, district-wise; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN): (a) to (c) Government has plans to provide Village Public Telephones (VPT) in all villages of Rajasthan. The operators are free to use any technology including Wirless in Local Loop (WLL) to connect the villages with telephone service. Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) has already completed its share of providing Village Public Telephones.

Density of telecom network in Rajasthan

1622. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the density of telecom network in Rajasthan, district-wise;

(b) the remote areas that are still to be connected by telephone service;

(c) whether any action has been taken to fully connect the State by telecom network;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) by when it is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN): (a) The overall density of telecom network in

Rajashtan is 3.03. The district-wise tele-density as provided by BSNL is given in the Statement. (*See* below) District-wise information from Private Basic operators & Cellular operators is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

(b) There are 15487 Nos. of villages are still to be provided with telecom facility.

(c) to (e) Yes, Sir. The operators have been given a target to cover all the villages by end of December, 2002 and are free to use any technology to cover the remaining villages including new technologies like WLL & Cor DECT Sat. Commn. etc. Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) has already completed their share of coverage of Village Public Telephones (VPTs).

Statement

District-wise tele-density in Rajasthan (Fixed Phones by BSNL)

S. No.	Name of District	Telephone Density
1	2	3
1.	Ajmar	4.36
2.	Alwar	2.55
3.	Banswara	1.92
4.	Dungarpur	1.18
5.	Barmar	1.60
6.	Bharatpur	2.01
7.	Dholpur	1.15
8.	Bhilwara	2.64
9.	Bikaner	3.25
10.	Bundi	1.62
11.	Chittorgarh	2.06
12.	Churu	2.47
13.	Jaisalmer	2.25
14.	Dausa	1.54
15.	Jaipur	5.44

1	2	3
16.	Jhalawar	1.43
17.	Jhunjunu	3.05
18.	Jodhpur	3.68
19.	Kota	4.76
20.	Baran	1.34
21.	Nagaur	2.14
22.	Pali	4.07
23.	Sawaimadhopur	1.86
24.	Karauli	1.07
25.	Sikar	2.47
26.	Sirohi	3.14
27.	Jalor	1.98
28.	Sriganganagar	4.52
29.	Hanumangarh	2.76
30.	Tonk	1.61
31.	Udaipur	2.88
32.	Rajsmand	2.78

World class telecom services

1623. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the National Telecom Policy envisages that World-class telecom services would be provided at a reasonable price;

(b) if so, what are the world-class telecom services that are being provided to the consumer at a reasonable price;

(c) whether 256 and 565 line exchanges provided in the rural areas are providing world-class telecom services;

(d) if not, what are the shortcomings; and

(e) the manner in which Government propose to tackle these shortcomings?